AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 5, lines 27-32 replace the paragraph as follows:

In order to actuate the ~~switching~~ start means in the first module 9 second movable actuating means 21 have been provided, which are essentially formed by a lever 21, which is mounted so as to be pivotable about a pivot 22, which lever has a second switching handle 24 on its one lever arm 23 and whose second lever arm serves to actuate the start means. For the actuation of the start means the second switching handle 24 should be depressed against the force exerted by a return spring 21A that acts upon the lever 21.

Page 9, lines 3-30 replace the paragraphs as follows:

The first module 9 further includes a first slider 102, which is guided so as to be movable parallel to the strip direction 90. The first slider 102 serves to carry the mating contact. At one end the first slider 102 carries a coupling pin ~~12~~ 104 on an arm 103 for the articulated coupling to the rod 58. In the area of its other end 105 the slider 102 has two projections 106 and 107, which project laterally from the first slider 102. Each of the two projections 106 and 107 is connected to a contact link 108 and 109, a pressure spring 110, 111 being arranged between each of the two projections 106 and 107 band the two contact links 108 and 109, which springs urge the contact links 108 and 109 towards the contact strip configuration 91. Each of the two contact links 108 and 109 has two mating contacts 112, 113 and 114, 115, respectively, which cooperate with the contact strips of the contact strip configuration 91 and which together with the contact strips form the speed switching means 60. The two mating contacts 112 and 113 are interconnected in an electrically conductive manner with the aid of the contact link 108. The other two mating contacts 114 and 115 are interconnected in an electrically conductive manner with the aid of the contact link 109.

The first module 9 further includes a second slider 116, which is movable relative to the supporting member 85 and which serves as a switch actuator. In the area of its end 117 the second slider 116 has a laterally projecting limb 118. The limb 118 is disposed in the path of movement of the lever arm 25 of the second movable actuating means 21, which are movable with the aid of the second switching handle 24 against the force exerted by the return spring 21A. In the area of its

other end 119 the second slider 116 is connected to a substantially U-shaped member 120 whose limb 121, which is remote from the second slider 116 serves to and is adapted to cooperate with the actuating pin 101 of the microswitch 100. A return spring 123 for the second slider 116 is attached to a pin ~~112~~ 122, which projects from the second slider 116, and has its other end attached to a pin 124, which projects from a cover 125 of the first module 9. The cover 125 is locked to the supporting member 85 with the aid of latching projections 126, 127, 128 and 129. The parts of the first module 9 which lie between the supporting member 85 and the cover 125 are retained and partly guided with the aid of the cover 125.